

**Charter Township of Ironwood
Regular Meeting
Monday, February 24, 2020**

Call to Order: 5:30 pm Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Mary Segalin-Clerk

Trustees: Bernie Brunello, Marlene Saari, Bev Michaels, Kevin Lyons

Absent: Supervisor- James Simmons, Treasurer-Maria Graser

Also Present: LeRoy Johnson- Zoning Administrator, Ron Jacobson, Joe Rohde, George Kivi, Jay Kangas, Phil Strong, Sandy Lahtinen, Brenda Aili-Angus and Scott Carlson-Fire Chief.

A motion was made by Segalin support by Michaels for Marlene Saari to chair the meeting in absence of Supervisor. Motion carried.

Public Comment: (3-minute limit) A citizen asked if there is any new news on the bonding issue court case. The citizen was informed the Supervisors statement will answer that later in the meeting.

Amendments to Agenda: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Lyons to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting, February 10, 2020, as presented. Motion carried.

Bills and Salaries: General Fund-#45730-45764- \$61,348.98, Water Fund- #9081 & 9082- \$1,060.63, Wastewater Fund- #1930-1934- \$6,091.49. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Michaels to accept the bills and salaries as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote. All ayes.

Appearances: Phil Strong discussed the township road repair plan for 2020. Chip sealing will not be done this year. Gravel maintenance will be bid out. Repaving will be done on Lake Rd toward the Wisconsin border, Country Club Rd and 1.6 miles of Black River Rd. A ride around will be conducted this spring to see what the conditions are on township roads.

Old Business: None

Communications: Bruce MacArthur had requested late fees be taken off of all his rental water bills due as he didn't receive his forwarded mail by the time the bills were due. A motion was made by Brunello supported by Lyons for the Treasurer to follow Ordinance policy regarding late fees. Motion carried.

A letter regarding North Star Road conditions was received from Philip Kucera concerning the road issues. Phil Strong informed the Board Mr. Kucera's concerns were address with Bolich from the Road Commission.

A motion was made by Segalin supported by Lyons to approve the requested share by the Gogebic County Council of Veterans Affairs in the amount of \$5,188. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Lyons supported by Saari to place all communications on file. Motion carried.

New Business: None

Reports:

Supervisor: Chairperson Saari read Simmons's notes aloud-The first hearing concerning the bond lawsuit with the insurance company was held last Friday at the Courthouse in Bessemer before Judge Burgess. Both sides presented their case before the court on the motion for Summary Judgement. There were questions concerning statutory requirements of the bonds. The judge set March 3rd as a scheduling conference, and also encouraged both parties to look at mediation as a way to resolve the matter.

He attended the GRWA meeting on Thursday, Feb. 13th. General discussion on current operations and long-term planning.

Met with Barry and Phil at the Road Commission and reviewed our list of 2020 road projects and priorities. (Phil covered earlier in meeting)

Renovations are moving along at Milltrace Apartments. They plan to be done by the middle of June 2020 at the latest.

Attended Board of Review training at the Courthouse. The Board of Review will meet for the organizational meeting on Tuesday, March 3rd at 4:30pm. The BOR will also meet on Monday March 9th from 9am to 3pm, Wednesday, March 11th and Thursday March 12th from 4:30pm to 7:30pm.

The spring on Lake Rd is being discussed by the Road Commission at their meeting tonight in Bessemer. Barry Bolich will contact Simmons on Tuesday concerning if any action is taken.

Simmons will be attending the MTA meeting in Watersmeet on Tuesday night. They will be looking for new members to fill the expected vacancies coming up.

Treasurer: Absent, no report

Clerk: The State Capital is asking anyone who would like to donate a tree to them for Christmas, please let Segalin know- the specifications are in her office. Segalin also stated that the SB 431-gravel mining bill is soon to be voted on. If it passes, this is the first step in local communities losing control over local zoning.

Trustees:

Michaels- None

Saari- Attended a Solid Waste meeting

Brunello- Attended a Gogebic Range Water Authority meeting

Lyons- Attended a Powderhorn Area Utility District meeting

Fire Dept.: No report

Public comment: A member of Board of Review stated she was very disappointed she was not made aware of the annual, free, local Board of Review training that was held at the Courthouse. A citizen ~~questioned the status of our AMAR review for our townships assessing~~ stated the AMAR failed. The BOR board needs to be educated in order to correct definciencies. There have been deficiencies in the past years and if the State of Michigan will be taking over the assessing.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Brunello supported by Lyons to adjourn the meeting at 5:55 pm. Motion carried.

Marlene Saari, Chair - Trustee

Mary Segalin, Clerk